PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF: JOHN M. PEDERSEN

APPLICATION NO.: 09/823,948

FILED: MARCH 30, 2001

FOR: DRY CONTACT ASSEMBLIES AND

PLATING MACHINES WITH DRY CONTACT ASSEMBLIES FOR PLATING MICROELECTRONIC

WORKPIECES

EXAMINER: BRIAN L. MUTSCHLER

ART UNIT: 1753

CONFIRMATION NO: 7598

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability mailed January 22, 2004, the Examiner allowed claims 1-70. Although the applicant's attorney agrees with the Examiner's conclusion that these claims are allowable, the applicant's attorney notes that the claims may be allowable for reasons other than those identified by the Examiner and does not concede that the Examiner's characterizations of the terms of the claims and the prior art are correct.

Respectfully submitted, Perkins Coie LLP

Date: April 20, 2004

Paul T. Parker

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